

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1027  
By Brown

A RESOLUTION to honor B. Farrell Cooper upon the occasion of his retirement as Executive Director of the Partnership for Families, Children and Adults in Chattanooga.

WHEREAS, this legislative body is pleased to recognize the contributions of those Tennesseans who, throughout their working careers and years of public service, have made significant contributions to their communities and have provided outstanding leadership while improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mr. B. Farrell Cooper is one such estimable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; throughout his exemplary forty-three year career in social services, he has proven himself to be a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and an exceptional asset to his community; and

WHEREAS, a native Tennessean, Farrell Cooper was born on January 15, 1941; he graduated in 1958 from Christian Brothers High School in Memphis, earned a bachelor's degree in 1963 from Memphis State University, and received a master's degree in Social Work from the University of Tennessee in 1967; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cooper began his career in 1964 as a staff social worker for Moccasin Bend Psychiatric Hospital in Chattanooga and went on to serve as its Acting Director from 1967 to 1968; he became the founding director of the Chattanooga Parent-Child Center in 1968, while also serving as a part-time instructor in the department of Sociology and Anthropology at the University of Tennessee (UT) at Chattanooga; and

WHEREAS, from 1970 to 1974, Mr. Cooper served as a psychiatric social worker at Psychiatric Services of Chattanooga, Inc., continued teaching at UT Chattanooga, and worked as a consulting social worker at the Houston Jewell Medical Care Units in Georgia and the Baroness Erlanger Hospital in Chattanooga; and

WHEREAS, Farrell Cooper served as the Director of the Department of Social Services at Baroness Erlanger Medical Center from January of 1974 until August of 1988; during that time, Mr. Cooper served on various hospital committees, including the Employee Advisory Committee, Personnel Committee, Retirement Investment Committee, Ambulatory Care Committee, and Medical Ethics Committee; he also continued in his capacity as a part-time instructor at UT Chattanooga, and as Social Work consultant at Parkwood Nursing Home and Convalescent Center in Chattanooga, and as a part-time Social Worker with Psychiatric Services, Inc. in Chattanooga; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, Farrell Cooper accepted the position of Associate Director of Family and Children's Services of Chattanooga, Inc., where his responsibilities for the next six years included maintaining and developing agency programs and services based on community needs; writing proposals for grant and contractual funding; monitoring and assuring program compliance with all contractual and professional standards; providing direction and supervision to the functional program divisions of the agency; and providing assistance to the executive director in all matters with emphasis on budgeting, personnel management, and community relations; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cooper has served as Chief Executive Officer of Family and Children's Services of Chattanooga, Inc., now known as Partnership for Families, Children and Adults, since January of 1995, and he is taking a well deserved retirement after serving for eleven years; under his guidance and leadership, the Partnership has been characterized by change and progress; when measured by the growth of its budget, the agency has grown by seventy-five percent, all amid tremendous programming and facilities changes, as well as its first capital campaign, which reached its \$2 million goal in November of 2004; and

WHEREAS, Farrell Cooper has more than met the challenge of successfully running a private non-profit agency serving the community, while constantly striving to maintain those services that benefit the common interest of the community; proving himself to be an effective leader with remarkable vision, Mr. Cooper has gained the respect of his colleagues, staff, and community members alike for the exemplary quality of his work and his dedication to duty; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cooper has lent his superb leadership skills to numerous civic endeavors and is an important figure in the advancement of many worthy organizations, including the National Association of Social Workers, the Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare, the Tennessee Department of Human Services, Rotary International, Blue Ridge Institute for Southeastern Community Service Executives, Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children, Child Welfare League of America, and Alliance for Children and Families; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, Farrell Cooper was named 1983 Social Worker of the Year by the National Association of Social Workers; he received a Professional Advocacy Award in 1993 from the Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare, and was recognized for Outstanding Effort on Behalf of Victims by the Coalition Against Domestic and Community Violence in 2003; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Farrell Cooper has distinguished himself as a professional of the greatest ability and integrity, leaving behind an indelible legacy of education, respect, and commitment to the people of Chattanooga, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cooper epitomizes the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, his meritorious service to the city of Chattanooga notwithstanding, Farrell Cooper is most grateful for the constant love and support of his wife, Gail, and their four children, Kathryn, Jeanne, Laura, and Christopher; and

WHEREAS, wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," B. Farrell Cooper's dedication to progress, his foresight, and his boundless energy have tendered a profound, positive impact upon the lives of the people of Chattanooga, and he is worthy of much praise and approbation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend B. Farrell Cooper in recognition of his exemplary forty-three year career in social services, and his eighteen years of meritorious

service with Partnership for Families, Children and Adults, including eleven years as Executive Director. We extend our sincerest gratitude for his inspiring leadership and all of his good works within the community, and offer our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement as well as every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.